



SUPPORTING STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING

May 2, 2017, Lawrence School Bond Mail-Ballot Election

THE GOAL

» *Create school environments that support personalized learning, student engagement and success.*

USD 497 FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

With elementary schools transformed into 21st-century learning environments thanks to the community's support of its 2013 school bond election, the Lawrence Board of Education turned its attention to a facilities master planning process to address the needs of the middle and high schools, especially Lawrence High School. The board contracted Gould Evans Associates to meet with a Facilities Planning Committee, Lawrence High Steering Committee, and middle and high school administrators and staff, conduct focus groups and student surveys, visit districts with new high school facilities of similar size, and work with engineering and construction firms on a comprehensive analysis of programmatic and building needs. The board reviewed the analysis and approved an \$87 million bond election for school improvements.



ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

- Provide flexible spaces to enhance students' educational experiences and opportunities to collaborate, create and innovate
- Address equity issues across school facilities
- Deliver energy efficient, high-performance schools that promote student/staff wellness and success

LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL – 27,000 sq. ft. additions, 288,000 sq. ft. renovations

- Provide a safe and secure campus
- Create flexible student collaboration spaces
- Enlarge classrooms, corridors and kitchen
- Establish outdoor learning areas
- Modernize library media center
- Renovate annex classrooms, gyms, natatorium, weight room, fine arts spaces, career and technical education areas, restrooms and locker rooms
- Upgrade infrastructure and aging building systems
- Make site improvements

FREE STATE HIGH SCHOOL – 18,000 sq. ft. additions, 21,000 sq. ft. renovations

- Add classrooms and multi-purpose space to accommodate growth
- Create flexible student collaboration spaces
- Modernize library media center
- Expand and improve parking and sidewalks
- Upgrade infrastructure and aging building systems
- Renovate restrooms and locker rooms

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLS – 30,000 sq. ft. renovations

- Create flexible student collaboration spaces
- Modernize library media centers
- Upgrade infrastructure and aging building systems
- Renovate restrooms and locker rooms

LAWRENCE COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER

- Finish space to move culinary arts program from Holcom
- Improve existing educational spaces
- Prepare connection to future Boys and Girls Club Teen Center



Visit www.usd497.org to learn more.

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VOTE by MAY 2



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THE BALLOT QUESTION

Shall Unified School District No. 497, Douglas County, Kansas, (Lawrence), issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$87,000,000 to pay the costs to: construct additions to and renovate, improve, repair, equip and furnish Lawrence High School, the other existing secondary schools including Lawrence Free State High School, Liberty Memorial Central Middle School, South Middle School, Southwest Middle School, West Middle School, and the College and Career Center; to make technology improvements throughout the district; to undertake all other necessary improvements related thereto; and to pay fees and expenses related thereto; all pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 10-101 *et seq.*, K.S.A 25-431 *et seq.*, K.S.A. 25-2018(f), K.S.A. 72-6761 and K.S.A. 75-2315 *et seq.*?



PROPOSED BUDGET – \$87 million

Lawrence High School	\$ 50,800,000
Free State High School	\$ 15,200,000
West Middle School	\$ 9,800,000
Liberty Memorial Central Middle School	\$ 4,300,000
Southwest Middle School	\$ 4,300,000
South Middle School	\$ 1,800,000
Lawrence College and Career Center	\$ 600,000
Technology - Data & Information Management Systems	\$ 200,000

TAX IMPACT

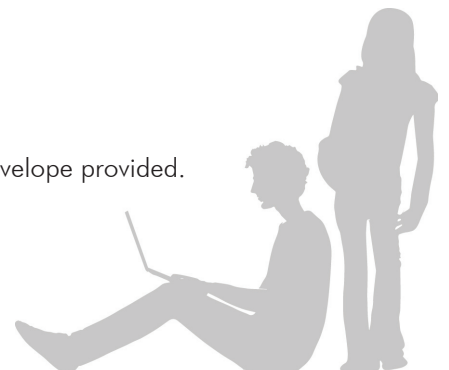
A successful \$87 million bond issue would increase local property taxes by an estimated 2.4 mills. This equates to a \$55 annual tax increase (\$4.60/month) for the owner of a home with an assessed value of \$200,000. (To calculate the estimated tax increase for your home, add/subtract \$2.76 in annual taxes for every \$10,000 in assessed value.)

ELECTION TIMELINE

- April 11 - Voter registration closes.
- April 12 - Douglas County Clerk's Office mails ballots to registered voters in USD 497.
- May 2 - Completed ballots must be received (not postmarked) in the Douglas County Clerk's Office. (Hand-delivered ballots must be received by noon on May 2.)

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS – *Mark it, Sign it, and Mail it Back!*

1. Mark your ballot in black or blue ink.
2. Sign the envelope.
3. Mail your completed ballot to the Douglas County Clerk's Office in the postage-paid envelope provided.



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